

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 6-9 are presently active in this case. The present Amendment amends Claims 6-8; cancels Claim 5 and adds Claim 9.

The outstanding Office Action rejected Claims 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement because of the words “at least” in front of the recitation “on a lateral edge situated on a concave side of the blade” in Claim 5. Claims 5 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Bussonnet (U.S. Patent No. 5,820,347) in view of Schoenborn (U.S. Patent No. 3,216,699). Claims 5 and 8 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Bussonnet in view of Tempere (U.S. Patent No. 6,447,253).

Claims 6 and 7 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form and to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter. In response, Claims 6 and 7 are rewritten in independent form to incorporate the features from Claim 5. Claim 5 is canceled. Claims 6 and 7 are also amended to delete the “at least” in front of the recitation “on a lateral edge situated on a concave side of the blade,” as suggested by the Examiner.

In response to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, Applicant traverses the rejection. However, because Claim 5 is now canceled and Claims 6 and 7 do not recite the “at least” language, the rejection is now moot.

In response to the rejections of Claims 5 and 8, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections. However, in the spirit of moving prosecution forward for the present application,

Claim 5 is canceled and Claim 8 is amended to depend from allowable Claim 6 so that the rejections are now moot.

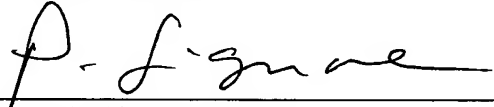
New dependent Claim 9 corresponds to Claim 8, but is dependent from Claim 7.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 6-9 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Philippe J.C. Signore, Ph.D.
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 43,922

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)